

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 00597 301224Z

43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20 PC-10 DRC-01 /145 W

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R 291910Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2084

INFO USCINCSO

UNCLAS LA PAZ 0597

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BL

SUBJECT: ARMED FORCES SOMMANDER DENOUNCES EXTREMIST
ACTIVITIES IN COCHABAMBA VALLEY.

1. GENERAL CARLOS ALCOREZA, CHIEF OF THE JOINT COMMAND OF THE ARMED FORCES, DENOUNCED ALLEGED PRESENCE OF EXTREMIST AGITATORS IN COCHABAMBA VALLEY JANUARY 28, WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY AFFIRMING CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF MILITARY-CAMPESINO PACT. ALCOREZA STATED THAT "FOREIGN ELEMENTS" AMONG COCHABAMBA CAMPESINOS WERE INCITING THEM TO CLOCK ROADS, EVEN THOUGH MAJORITY OF CAMPESINO POPULACE REMAINS ON SIDE OF THE ARMED FORCES. ARMED FORCES COMMANDER FURTHER ACCUSED EXTREMISTS OF PROVIDING CAMPESINOS WITH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN LARGE QUANTITIES, ADDING COMMENT THAT "WE WANTED TO TALK DIRECTLY WITH THE CAMPESINO LEADERS, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THEY ARE IN A STATE OF CONTINUAL DRUNKENNESS."

2. IN OTHER STATEMENTS TO PRESS, ALCOREZA CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT ONE SQUADRON OF "TARAPACA" MOTORIZED ELEMENT HAD BEEN

SENT TO COCHABAMBA VALLEY " TO ASSIST IN OBTAINING SOCIAL TRANQUILLITY". HOWEVER, ARMED FORCES COMMANDER DENIED THAT ANY ARMED CONFRONTATION HAD OCCURED BETWEEN MILITARY FORCES AND DEMONSTRATORS, NOTING THAT PROBLEM IS A POLITICAL ONE WHICH
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MUST BE RESOLVED BY DIALOGUE BETWEEN CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES AND

DEMONSTRATORS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, EXTREMISTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LAPAZ00597
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974019/aaaaaibb.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARMED FORCES SOMMANDER DENOUNCES EXTREMIST ACTIVITIES IN COCHABAMBA VALLEY.
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, MILI, BL, (ALCOREZA, CARLOS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005